United Nations E/2014/SR.23

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
25 August 2014

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Substantive session of 2014
Second coordination and management meeting

Summary record of the 23rd meeting

Held at Headquarters, New York, on Thursday, 12 June 2014, at 3 p.m.

President: Mr. Oh Joon (Vice-President) ..... (Republic of Korea)

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Dialogue with the representative of the secretariat of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination

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14-55299 (E)

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In the absence of Mr. Sajdik (Austria), Mr. Oh Joon (Republic of Korea), Vice-President, took the Chair.

The meeting was called to order at 3.10 p.m.

Social and human rights questions (*continued*)

(b) Social development (A/69/61-E/2014/4; E/2014/26-E/CN.5/2014/10)

1. **Mr. Gonnot** (Department for Economic and Social Affairs), introducing the report of the Secretary-General on preparations for and observance of the twentieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family in 2014 (A/69/61-E/2014/4), said that a focus on the family allowed better integration of policies and programmes to combat persistent development problems, particularly the intergenerational transmission of poverty and inequalities, and was often more effective than a focus on women and children only. Family policies must also be promoted in support of work-family balance, including the equal sharing of family responsibilities and the promotion of responsible fatherhood. Taking families into account as actors and beneficiaries in the context of the post-2015 development agenda would be a step in the direction of empowerment and reduction of inequalities and would thereby contribute to the achievement of sustainable development goals.

2. **Ms. Adhikari** (Nepal), Chair of the Commission for Social Development for the fifty-first and fifty-second sessions, presenting the report of the Commission on its fifty-second session (E/2014/26-E/CN.5/2014/10), said that, during the session, the Commission had held three high-level panel discussions on promoting the empowerment of people in achieving poverty eradication, social integration, and full employment and decent work for all. The importance of empowerment in accelerating progress towards the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and of carrying forward unfinished business to the post-2015 development agenda had been highlighted, as had the need for policymakers to understand the social drivers of development outcomes and focus on poverty eradication. The importance of ensuring the effective participation of social groups in the post-2015 processes had been stressed, and, in the light of the twentieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family, the inclusion of a family focus in the post-2015 agenda had been proposed. The Commission had also examined and discussed the report of the Special Rapporteur on disability. It had been noted that numerous mechanisms and elements were required to ensure sustainable development, including open and transparent institutions, respect for human rights, impartial judicial systems, social protection mechanisms, access to decent work, democratic governance and the rule of law. In addition, sustained partnerships must be forged between all sectors and relevant stakeholders to achieve better development results, and the internationally agreed goals and commitments in relation to official development assistance, debt relief, market access, financial stability, capacity-building and technical support must be fulfilled.

3. **Ms. Miculescu** (Romania), Chair of the Commission for Social Development for the fifty-third and fifty-fourth sessions, recalled that 2015 would be the twentieth anniversary of the consensus reached by Governments on the need to place people at the centre of development. That lent critical importance to the work of the Commission because, without social development, the other two pillars of development, economic growth and environmental protection, would not be sustainable. The draft resolution on future organization and methods of work currently before the Council reflected the Commission's efforts to fully support the strengthening of the Council and identified ways for the Commission to consider the Council's themes in its work and reporting. The Commission would continue to strive to align its work with that of the Council.

4. During the transition period to the post-2015 development agenda, the Commission would maintain its two-year review and policy cycle with the priority theme of "Rethinking and strengthening social development in the contemporary world". In its February 2015 session, it would take stock of progress in social development to lay the foundations of a forward-looking social policy framework for the realization of sustainable development. In the February 2016 session, the Commission would further align its work with the implementation of the global development agenda adopted by the General Assembly by focusing on action-oriented outcomes. The emerging issues theme, which was expected to be decided in late 2014, would also be used to align the Commission's work with that of the annual theme of the Council. The Commission counted on the support

of the Council to ensure the success of those two sessions and the ambitious and relevant work planned under the post-2015 development agenda.

5. **Ms. Stewart** (International Labour Organization (ILO)) said that she agreed that the current session was an important opportunity to think about how to bring the three dimensions of sustainable development together and establish effective links between them under the umbrella of the Council. ILO was committed to working closely and cooperatively with the Commission in the pursuit of those aims in the changing context of the United Nations development agenda.

The meeting was suspended at 3.30 p.m. and resumed at 3.50 p.m.

Action on recommendations contained in the report of the Commission for Social Development on its fifty-second session (E/2014/26–E/CN.5/2014/10)

6. **The President** drew attention to the draft proposals contained in chapter I, sections A and B, of the report.

Section A

Draft resolution I: Future organization and methods of work of the Commission for Social Development

Draft resolution II: Social dimensions of the New Partnership for Africa's Development

Draft resolution III: Promoting empowerment of people in achieving poverty eradication, social integration and full employment and decent work for all

Draft resolution IV: Promoting the rights of persons with disabilities and mainstreaming disability in the post-2015 development agenda

Draft resolution V: Further implementation of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002

Draft resolution VI: Observance of the twentieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family and beyond

7. *Draft resolutions I, II, III, IV, V and VI were adopted.*

Section B

Draft decision I: Provisional agenda and documentation for the fifty-third session of the Commission for Social Development

Draft decision II: Report of the Commission for Social Development on its fifty-second session

8. *Draft decisions I and II were adopted.*

Coordination, programme and other questions (*continued*)

(c) Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system (*continued*) (E/2014/L.12)

Draft resolution E/2014/L.12: Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system

9. **The President** said that the draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

10. *Draft resolution E/2014/L.12 was adopted.*

Economic and environmental questions (*continued*)

(d) Human settlements (E/2014/64)

11. **Ms. Djacta** (Director, United Nations Human Settlement Programme (UN-Habitat)), introducing the report of the Secretary-General on the coordinated implementation of the Habitat Agenda (E/2014/64), said that the report highlighted the activities undertaken by UN-Habitat in cooperation with United Nations system organizations, intergovernmental and international organizations and other partners to implement the Habitat Agenda at the global, regional and national levels. UN-Habitat had actively participated in the post-2015 development agenda and, partly as a result of its efforts, the contribution of urbanization to sustainable development had been increasingly recognized.

12. In the light of the issues addressed in the report, UN-Habitat called on Member States to give appropriate consideration in their national development plans to the role of urbanization in sustainable development; to implement urban planning policies that enhanced economic productivity and equity; to apply more systematically urban planning methods adapted to the needs of incremental urbanization

standards and compact, better integrated and connected urban development patterns; to use planned city extension methodologies to guide the sustainable development of cities experiencing rapid urban growth and thereby prevent slum proliferation; and to facilitate the inclusion of all relevant stakeholders, including local authorities, the private sector and non-governmental organizations, in national preparatory processes for the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III).

Dialogue with the representative of the secretariat of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination

13. **Ms. Petrova** (United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination) said that the Board had held a formal meeting on 8 May 2014 at the headquarters of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) in Rome. On the same occasion, the Board had held its third review of implementation of the MDGs at the country level. The meeting had been followed by a retreat during which executive heads had exchanged views on the post-2015 development agenda, with a particular focus on ways to support Member States in formulating and implementing the new sustainable development framework.

14. The Board's review mechanism had been established in November 2012 by the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme and the President of the World Bank. Each review had identified bottlenecks and determined practical steps that the United Nations system could take to remedy them. Three countries had been included in the third review: Benin on Goal 7 regarding water and sanitation, Colombia on inequalities in the overall implementation of the MDGs, and the Philippines on Goal 5 regarding maternal health, with an additional focus on sustaining development gains in the face of natural disasters. The respective United Nations resident coordinators and World Bank country directors had engaged in dialogue with the Board. Participants had observed that the review had already created a strong momentum for improved multilateral collaboration and had helped accelerate progress towards meeting the goals at the country level. The review had produced significant changes in the eight countries that had previously been covered. The Board would continue to monitor those results until the end of 2015 as part of its overall effort to review the MDGs.

15. The Board's discussion of the post-2015 development agenda had focused on how the United Nations system collectively could support Member States in making the transition to a new sustainable development agenda. Its deliberations had been informed by a joint contribution prepared by its three high-level committees, namely the High-Level Committee on Programmes, the High-Level Committee on Management and the United Nations Development Group (UNDG), which had sought to provide clarity on the programme-related, operational and management aspects of the agenda that was currently being formulated by the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals. The members of the Board had been united in their conviction that the United Nations needed to seize the opportunity to ensure that it was well equipped to support Member States in formulating and delivering the new agenda. The Board had identified five interrelated elements as crucial for the agenda: universality, equality, integration, human rights and the need for a data revolution. Board members had also reflected on the institutional, financial and governance implications for the United Nations system of a universal and integrated development framework. The system must take a more strategic and fitter approach in order to deliver effective support to Member States.

16. As part of its formal session, the Board had also discussed the means, particularly financial, to implement the post-2015 development agenda. Its reflections had focused on the need, which had been identified by Member States, for a coherent and coordinated United Nations system response in support of a broad and holistic financial framework. It had observed that the post-2015 financing framework should build on the Monterrey Consensus and the Doha Declaration, and should integrate the three dimensions of sustainable development in a balanced manner. In view of the sizeable financial needs, resources should be mobilized from all sources, including the national and international levels and the public and private sectors. Board members had expressed their commitment to working together to contribute to a successful third International Conference on Financing for Development. The Board and its subsidiary bodies would continue to explore key issues related to the

post-2015 development agenda in the light of the evolving intergovernmental discussions.

17. The High-Level Committee on Programmes had considered the priority issue of climate change and had renewed the mandate of its working group on climate change for another two years. Since its establishment in 2008, the working group had endeavoured to enhance coordination among United Nations organizations in support of Member States' efforts to tackle climate change. Over the following two years, it would seek more effectively to mobilize and disseminate the knowledge and services offered by the United Nations system in order to help generate momentum for an ambitious agreement and foster sustained practical action. In that context, the working group was developing a joint United Nations publication for the Climate Summit 2014 to be held in New York. The publication would seek to show how climate action could support sustainable development and how the United Nations system was supporting Member States' efforts.

18. The Board had also discussed the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States, which would be held in Apia, Samoa, in September 2014. It had endorsed a joint statement to the Conference on behalf of the United Nations system, expressing its strong commitment to the Conference and to a more coherent approach to small island developing States. A number of Board principals would join the Secretary-General at a high-level side event on 1 September 2014.

19. The High-Level Committee on Programmes had for the first time considered the issue of sustainable urbanization, in preparation for Habitat III, which would be held in 2016. It had sought to foster a deeper understanding of the key drivers of the new urban agenda and strengthen system-wide coordination in that area.

20. The High-Level Committee on Management had discussed the safety and security of United Nations staff in high-risk environments. The work of the Organization around the world was becoming increasingly dangerous, and between 20 and 25 staff members were killed every year. The United Nations system must continue to improve its policies and mechanisms in order to ensure continuity of operations while fulfilling its duty of care. The High-Level Committee on Management had therefore begun a comprehensive review of the relevant security, medical and managerial issues. In accordance with the provisions of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, the High-Level Committee on Management had also focused on innovation in the areas of human resources, finance and information technology. Legal and administrative models were being developed to facilitate the common procurement of vehicles, which could generate significant savings. Similar frameworks could then be used for other high-value commodities. Collaborative procurement arrangements had proved successful in Geneva and Rome, and similar initiatives focusing on joint contracts for travel, stationery, courier services and telecommunications were being launched in New York and Copenhagen. Common treasury services had also brought considerable savings; in 2011 and 2012, the 12 participating United Nations agencies had saved over $20 million per year against a one-time initial investment of $700,000. Also in response to the quadrennial comprehensive policy review, the High-Level Committee on Management was embarking on an enterprise resource planning interoperability feasibility study.

21. UNDG had concentrated on coherent implementation of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review, which was now being monitored through a single reporting framework with system-wide indicators. The framework had been developed by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, in cooperation with the High-Level Committee on Management and UNDG. The latter two entities had worked together to finalize standard operating procedures for the second phase of the Delivering as One initiative, and had developed a plan of action outlining 55 critical actions that should be taken at Headquarters in support of those procedures.

22. **Ms. Derderian** (United States of America) said that her delegation was pleased to hear of the Board's efforts to promote a coherent system approach. The third International Conference on Small Island Developing States, in particular, would provide an opportunity to create genuine and enduring partnerships to address the specific challenges of remote countries. She asked how the Board might support that process in order to address the unique needs of all small island developing States.

23. Significant progress had also been made in implementing the quadrennial comprehensive policy review, particularly with regard to the introduction of standard operating procedures, the implementation of the Headquarters plan of action and the feasibility study on the system-wide interoperability of enterprise resource planning. She would be interested to know what stage the study had reached and when results could be expected.

24. Her delegation was also pleased at progress towards the use of joint procurement frameworks. She wondered to what extent United Nations procurement was handled by the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS), as opposed to individual agencies, and what steps the Board was taking to encourage joint procurement.

25. Lastly, it had been indicated that only 12 United Nations agencies made use of common treasury services. Given that the joint negotiation of favourable currency rates could generate considerable savings, she wished to know what the Board was doing to encourage use of the arrangement.

26. **Mr. Zinsou** (Benin) asked what had been the impact of the Board's efforts to assist countries in specific situations, such as least developed countries, small island developing States, landlocked countries and countries emerging from conflict. In particular, he wondered whether the Board had made any progress towards the objective of ensuring that half of least developed countries could graduate to developing country status by 2020.

27. **Ms. Petrova** (United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination) said that the Board was working very closely with the secretariat of the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States. Its members were endeavouring to show that the United Nations system could coordinate its activities to establish broader partnerships for the benefit of small island developing States. For example, the Board was cooperating with the World Tourism Organization to explore ways to increase employment, create partnerships for investment in tourism and address health issues resulting from tourism. Such partnerships could bring economies of scale and ensure that the action taken was better targeted. Fifteen principals of the Board would be attending the Conference.

28. A working group headed by the Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union had reviewed the terms of reference for the feasibility study on the system-wide interoperability of enterprise resource planning. A call for inputs had now been issued, and a first draft of the study should be shared with Member States by the end of 2015.

29. Procurement was increasingly handled jointly, particularly in the case of larger items such as vehicles. UNOPS played a prominent role in joint procurement, but regional service centres also helped to ensure coordination and create economies of scale.

30. There were currently 12 entities that made use of common treasury services, but that did not mean to say that the other organizations operated independently at every location. Several other entities were expected to join the common treasury services in the near future.

31. The Board was a coordinating mechanism for efforts to support countries in specific situations, and its subsidiary bodies were actively following up implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020 (Istanbul Programme of Action). The High-level Committee on Programmes had been briefed by the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States. It had drafted a progress report on implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action and would discuss the topic at its thirtieth session, which would take place immediately before the midterm review of the Programme in early 2016. In the meantime, the Office of the High Representative would provide the Committee with regular progress reports.

The meeting rose at 4.55 p.m.

United Nations E/2014/SR.24

Economic and Social Council

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25 August 2014

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Substantive session of 2014
Second coordination and management meeting

Summary record of the 24th meeting
Held at Headquarters, New York, on Friday, 13 June 2014, at 10 a.m.

President: Mr. Oh Joon (Vice-President) ..... (Republic of Korea)

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Economic and environmental questions (*continued*)

(a) Sustainable development

Coordination, programme and other questions (*continued*)

(f) Tobacco or health

Economic and environmental questions (*continued*)

(c) Statistics

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14-55386 (E)

Please recycle

In the absence of Mr. Sajdik (Austria), Mr. Oh Joon (Republic of Korea), Vice-President, took the Chair.

The meeting was called to order at 10.15 a.m.

Economic and environmental questions (*continued*)

(a) Sustainable development (A/69/79-E/2014/66; E/2014/33; E/2014/L.15)

1. **Mr. O'Connor** (Chief, Policy and Analysis Branch, Division for Sustainable Development, Department of Economic and Social Affairs), introducing the report of the Secretary-General on mainstreaming of the three dimensions of sustainable development throughout the United Nations system (A/69/79-E/2014/66), said that, whereas the previous year's report (A/68/79-E/2013/69) had primarily taken stock of how far the United Nations system and its entities had progressed in mainstreaming the three dimensions in their strategies and their operational work, the current report went into more detail regarding the tools that could be used for mainstreaming, both within particular United Nations entities and across multiple entities, and also described the progress made at the intergovernmental level in discussions on elements of the post-2015 development agenda. Since the previous report, the High-level Panel of Eminent Persons on the Post-2015 Development Agenda had also produced its report, outlining five transformative shifts that were needed to drive the post-2015 agenda. There had therefore been a convergence of thinking around an agenda with sustainable development at its core. The United Nations system must be prepared to support Member States in the implementation of such an agenda, which would require more effective consideration and implementation of mainstreaming. The current report also referred to the role of inspections, evaluations and peer reviews in fostering more effective mainstreaming, as well as the question of how the United Nations system could best support the ongoing discussions on the post-2015 development agenda.

2. At the operational level, various quality assurance and safeguard mechanisms had been established in both the Bretton Woods institutions and the United Nations system entities to ensure a balanced consideration of the three dimensions of sustainable development in programmatic and project activities. Work was also being undertaken to develop coherence and coordination across United Nations entities and regional meetings were being held to contribute to the work of the high-level political forum on sustainable development. The report concluded with a number of recommendations for supporting and accelerating the integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development in the work of the United Nations system.

3. **Mr. Ocampo Gaviria** (Chair of the Committee for Development Policy), introducing the report of the Committee for Development Policy on its sixteenth session (E/2014/33), said that, given the growing heterogeneity among developing countries, various country classifications had been established. The least developed country category, created and recognized by the General Assembly, had clear advantages over other existing categories in that it was clearly defined, based on sound analysis and reviewed by an independent body of experts. Many existing classifications, however, relied on weak analytical foundations or reflected particular agendas and those shortcomings compromised the effectiveness of policies designed to address the associated development challenges. For that reason, the Committee recommended greater caution when considering the creation of country groupings for development cooperation activities. In most cases, donors could allocate support based on objective criteria without defining any additional category of countries. In line with General Assembly resolution 67/221, it was strongly recommended that such indicators as gross national income per capita, the human assets index and the economic vulnerability index should be broadly used by development partners as criteria in determining their allocation of official development assistance. It was also recommended that new issue-based categories linked to specific development problems should be created only when an issue was important, deserved a specific set of support measures distinct from any existing measures and required internationally coordinated action to address it.

4. The methodology used for least developed country identification had been reviewed. While the validity of the current criteria had been affirmed, a few refinements were to be introduced. In particular, thresholds for the human asset index and economic vulnerability index would henceforth be established on the basis of absolute, not relative, values. That change would enable least developed countries to qualify for graduation if they made significant progress, independently of the progress of other countries.

5. The Committee had monitored the development progress of countries that had graduated from the least developed country category. Maldives had sustained economic and social progress, despite the redirection of aid flows away from the health and education sectors and the abrupt phasing-out of preferential market access by some trading partners. Samoa also continued to make development progress, notwithstanding recent natural disasters. With regard to countries recommended for graduation, the Committee had identified significant deficits in human development in Equatorial Guinea, which should prepare a transition strategy to address its dependence on hydrocarbons. Vanuatu, meanwhile, was likely to be adversely affected by graduation in the areas of trade and development finance. The Government should therefore begin to prepare its transition strategy and development and trading partners should withdraw specific support gradually, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 67/221.

6. The Committee had continued to work on the post-2015 framework, with a focus on strengthening global governance to facilitate the implementation of the United Nations development agenda. International cooperation and global governance mechanisms were not working well because the current system was incapable of managing the growing integration and interdependence among countries and governance structures were characterized by severe asymmetries in terms of access to the decision-making processes and coverage of areas of global concern. Such asymmetries contributed to the generation and perpetuation of inequality at both international and national levels. Furthermore, global rules had not provided sufficient policy space for national Governments, particularly of developing countries, to promote the development of their societies and the reduction of inequalities. The Committee had set out five core principles to guide the reforms: common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities; subsidiarity; inclusiveness, transparency and accountability; coherence and responsible sovereigaty. The Council should take a leadership role in the reforms of global governance and global rules, which in turn should be at the centre of the global partnership for development.

7. **Mr. Kantorczyk** (Germany) asked for further information on the mandates and work of the regional meetings related to the high-level political forum on sustainable development, and also on their expected outcomes.

8. **Mr. O'Connor** (Chief, Policy and Analysis Branch, Division for Sustainable Development, Department of Economic and Social Affairs), said that three regional meetings had been organized by the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) and the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) to support the work of the high-level political forum in their respective regions, as mandated by General Assembly resolution 67/290.

Draft resolution E/2014/L.15: Report of the Committee for Development Policy

9. **The President** said that the draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

10. *Draft resolution E/2014/L.15 was adopted.*

Coordination, programme and other questions (*continued*)

(f) Tobacco or health (E/2014/55)

11. **Mr. Bettcher** (World Health Organization (WHO)) introduced the note by the Secretary-General (E/2014/55) transmitting the report of the Director General of WHO on the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases. The report, submitted pursuant to Council resolution 2013/12, set out the progress achieved since July 2013 in establishing the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases and developing its terms of reference, including the division of tasks and responsibilities. The Task Force had made significant progress in providing support to developing countries in their national efforts to implement the WHO Global Action Plan for the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases 2013-2020, which comprised a set of actions to help attain a 25 per cent reduction in the risk of premature mortality from non-communicable diseases by 2025.

12. The members of the Task Force had undertaken needs assessment missions to a number of countries to support Governments in their efforts to strengthen their tobacco control regimes and comply with their surveillance and reporting obligations under the WHO

Framework Convention on Tobacco Control. The Task Force would continue to give priority attention to tobacco control mechanisms and, in the months ahead, would carry out joint missions to support Governments and their partners in efforts to scale up initiatives to prevent and control non-communicable diseases.

13. In partnership with the International Telecommunication Union, WHO had launched the *Be Healthy, Be Mobile* initiative to help countries use mobile technologies to combat non-communicable diseases. Costa Rica, Senegal and Zambia were receiving operational support under that initiative and the Philippines would receive assistance in the near future. WHO and the United Nations Development Programme had also convened a workshop in Fiji on trade agreements and non-communicable diseases to help Member States in the Pacific region ensure that their trade agreements and healthcare policies complemented each other.

14. The draft terms of reference for the Task Force, contained in the report, had been endorsed by the WHO Executive Board and the World Health Assembly. WHO invited the Council to approve those terms of reference and endorse the report's other recommendations.

15. **Mr. Maksimychev** (Russian Federation) said that his delegation attached great importance to the Organization's consideration of issues relating to the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases. The Russian Federation had sponsored efforts to ensure that non-communicable diseases were included on the global agenda, including through the establishment of the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases. Since reducing tobacco use was an important dimension of efforts to combat non-communicable diseases, he encouraged all interested parties to attend the sixth session of the Conference of Parties to the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control, to be held from 13 to 18 October 2014 in Moscow.

Draft resolution E/2014/L.13: United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases

16. **Mr. Maksimychev** (Russian Federation), introducing the draft resolution on behalf of the sponsors, said that China, Jamaica, Kyrgyzstan and Monaco had joined the list of sponsors. The draft resolution endorsed the terms of reference for the Task Force and renamed the Council's agenda item "Tobacco or health" to read "Prevention and control of non-communicable diseases", thereby considerably broadening the range of issues that it addressed. The draft resolution, which could be adopted by consensus, would provide further momentum to efforts to implement the Global Action Plan for the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases 2013-2020, and the Political Declaration of the High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases.

17. **Mr. Gustafik** (Secretary of the Council) announced that Serbia had joined the sponsors.

18. **The President** said that the draft resolution had no programme budget implications and recalled that it had been issued in all languages only that morning. He took it that the Council wished to waive rule 54 of the rules of procedure in order not to delay its adoption.

19. *It was so decided.*

20. *Draft resolution E/2014/L.13 was adopted.*

The meeting was suspended at 11.15 a.m. and resumed at noon.

Economic and environmental questions (*continued*)

(c) Statistics (E/2014/24-E/CN.3/2014/35)

21. **Ms. Vukovich** (Observer for Hungary), Vice-Chair of the Statistical Commission, speaking via video link from Budapest, introduced the report on the forty-fifth session of the Statistical Commission (E/2014/24-E/CN.3/2014/35). Reviewing a number of key issues covered in the report, she said that the Commission had called upon the Friends of the Chair, which had been working closely with the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals, to continue providing statistical support to facilitate the implementation of the post-2015 development agenda. The Commission had also endorsed the proposed work programme of the Friends of the Chair, which included the development of an implementation framework for the monitoring and measurement of the post-2015 development agenda in partnership and coordination with countries, regional and international organizations, other relevant stakeholders and donors.

22. The Commission was also seeking to address gaps in the data available on certain countries, most of them

in the developing world. Without high-quality statistics, it would prove extremely difficult for countries to sustain development; policymakers were therefore strongly urged to involve statisticians in the process of formulating development policies. The Commission had also discussed issues related to the "data revolution" and evidence-based decision-making, including the need to strengthen and invest in countries' data gathering and analysis capacities, modernize statistical institutions' methodologies, develop new indicators, particularly in the fields of inequality and governance, and ensure that all stakeholders enjoyed free or low-cost access to data. The latter was particularly important as it would enhance the accountability and transparency of statistical systems. It was, moreover, important that stakeholders maintained realistic expectations about the extent to which the data revolution, including the accumulation of vast amounts of information or "big data", could spur development. Appropriate methodologies for producing statistics from big data sources must be tested and approved before those sources could be used extensively in the production of official statistics.

23. **Mr. González Soca** (Cuba) said that the indicators for the post-2015 development agenda and sustainable development goals should not be based exclusively on the report of the High-Level Panel on the Post-2015 Development Agenda, which represented just one contribution to the process. Furthermore, while the experiences of such organizations as the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, Eurostat and the Economic Commission for Europe were valuable, they could not be universally applied, in view of the differences between regions. Contributions from other regions should also be taken into account and greater input should be sought from regional statistical bodies. Although big data sources could provide vast amounts of information, they were complementary, and could not replace official sources of data. In addition, developing countries would need technology transfer, capacity-building and official development assistance in order to use such data efficiently. Data provided by national statistical agencies should be treated with due respect and Governments had the right to determine how data was accessed by stakeholders.

24. **Ms. Vukovich** (Observer for Hungary), Vice-Chair of the Statistical Commission, said that it was indeed crucial to enhance countries' national statistical capacities and to make use of official statistics when designing monitoring mechanisms and evaluating development goals.

Draft decision: Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-fifth session and the provisional agenda and dates for the forty-sixth session of the Commission

25. **The President** invited the Council to take action on the draft decision entitled "Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-fifth session and the provisional agenda and dates for the forty-sixth session of the Commission", contained in chapter I, section A, of the report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-fifth session (E/2014/24-E/CN.3/2014/35).

26. *The draft decision was adopted.*

The meeting rose at 12.15 p.m.

United Nations E/2014/SR.25

Economic and Social Council

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Substantive session of 2014
Second coordination and management meeting

Summary record of the 25th meeting
Held at Headquarters, New York, on Friday, 13 June 2014, at 3 p.m.

President: Mr. Oh Joon (Vice-President) ..... (Republic of Korea)

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Economic and environmental questions (*continued*)

(h) International cooperation in tax matters*

(k) Assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions

Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters (*continued*)

Elections, nominations, confirmations and appointments (*continued*)

* Items which the Council has decided to consider together.

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In the absence of Mr. Sajdik (Austria), Mr. Oh Joon (Republic of Korea), Vice-President, took the Chair.

The meeting was called to order at 3.10 p.m.

Economic and environmental questions (*continued*)

(a) Sustainable development (*continued*) (E/2014/L.14)

Draft resolution E/2014/L.14: The family and sustainable development

1. **Mr. Lazarev** (Belarus), introducing the draft resolution, said that it was based on the principle that the family was the fundamental group unit of society, a universal institution from which all human beings emerged and a source of support, warmth and love. It was the centre of educational, social, economic and spiritual life, the natural connection between generations and an invaluable means of transmitting knowledge and values from older people to the young. Without it, sustainable development was impossible.

2. The Council had examined the role of the family in sustainable development for the first time 30 years previously, but had then ceased to study the matter, which had not subsequently received due attention at the United Nations. Through the discussions on the new development agenda, however, the subject had once again come to the attention of States, United Nations bodies and non-governmental organizations. It had been discussed within the United Nations system in the context of the sustainable development goals, and the Secretary-General had also focused on the matter. Efforts by civil society had resulted in the Include the Family petition, which had been signed by 45,000 people.

3. His delegation had wanted the draft resolution to state clearly the Council's recognition of the family's fundamental role in sustainable development. It had organized four rounds of consultations and had engaged with all stakeholders on the basis of open dialogue, motivated not by the political and economic interests of Belarus but by a concern for justice and the need to draw attention to the family. He thanked the delegations which had participated constructively in the consultations. Some, however, had refused to support the text, which would have helped millions of men and women to start families and bring up the next generation in a spirit of respect for the family. For that reason, his delegation had decided to withdraw the draft resolution. However, it would not allow the world to forget the family, whose importance did not depend on political situations or the narrow interests of certain countries. It would continue to work within and outside the United Nations for the good of the family and for recognition of its role in sustainable development.

4. *Draft resolution E/2014/L.14 was withdrawn.*

Implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits

(a) Follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development (A/69/83-E/2014/71; E/2014/L.16)

Economic and environmental questions (*continued*)

(h) International cooperation in tax matters (E/2013/45; E/2014/L.9, E/2014/L.11 and E/2014/L.17)

Draft resolution E/2014/L.16: Follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development

5. **The President** said that the draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

6. *Draft resolution E/2014/L.16 was adopted.*

Draft resolutions E/2014/L.9 and E/2014/L.17: Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters

7. **The President** invited the Council to take action on draft resolution E/2014/L.17, which he had submitted, in his capacity as Vice-President, on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution E/2014/L.9.

8. **Mr. Gustafik** (Secretary of the Council), delivering a statement in accordance with rule 31 of the rules of procedure of the Council, said that, should the Council adopt the draft resolution, it was anticipated that the request contained in paragraph 7 would constitute an addition to the workload of the Department of General Assembly and Conference Management of one document of 8,500 words, to be issued in all languages, and would entail additional requirements in the amount of $50,900 for documentation services under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, for the biennium 2014-2015. In accordance with established procedures, the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session would be informed,

in the report of the Secretary-General on revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions adopted by the Council, of additional requirements arising in that biennium. With regard to the request in paragraph 7 that the report should be submitted within existing resources, the Council's attention was drawn to Section VI of General Assembly resolution 45/248 B and subsequent resolutions, most recently resolution 68/246, in which the General Assembly had reaffirmed the role of the Fifth Committee as the appropriate Main Committee entrusted with responsibilities for administrative and budgetary matters, and the role of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions.

9. *Draft resolution E/2014/L.17 was adopted.*

10. *Draft resolution E/2014/L.9 was withdrawn.*

Draft decision E/2014/L.11: Venue and dates of and provisional agenda for the tenth session of the Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters

11. **The President** said that the draft decision contained no programme budget implications.

12. *Draft decision E/2014/L.11 was adopted.*

(k) Assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions

13. **The President** said that although the Council had decided in its resolution 2000/32 to continue its consideration of assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions under the agenda item "Economic and environmental questions", taking into account the relevant decisions of the General Assembly and of the Security Council, no advance documentation on the matter had been submitted.

Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters (*continued*) (E/2014/L.10)

Draft decision E/2014/L.10: Appointment of an additional member of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti

14. **Mr. Gustafik** (Secretary of the Council), delivering a statement in accordance with rule 31 of the rules of procedure of the Council, said that, should the Council adopt the draft decision, it was estimated that the support to be provided to the additional member of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group, consisting of airfare, daily subsistence allowance and terminal expenses related to travel for scheduled missions to Washington, D.C. and Haiti, would amount to $2,700 in 2014. In the consideration of previous resolutions extending the mandate of the Advisory Group, the Secretary-General had advised that all possible efforts would be made to meet those requirements from within the resources approved under section 9, Economic and social affairs, of the programme budget for the biennium 2014-2015. Accordingly, no additional appropriation would be required.

15. *Draft decision E/2014/L.10 was adopted.*

16. **Mr. Rivas** (Observer for Uruguay) said that Uruguay's historical links with Haiti were reflected in bilateral ties between the two States, as well as in his country's contribution to the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti and its role as the coordinator of the Group of Friends of Haiti. His Government supported the emphasis placed by the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti on development, socioeconomic recovery, reconstruction and stability, and looked forward to furthering the Group's objectives and the interests of the Haitian people.

Elections, nominations, confirmations and appointments (*continued*)

17. **The President** recalled that, at its 12th meeting, the Council had decided to postpone the election of one member of the International Narcotics Control Board from among candidates nominated by the World Health Organization until the Council's coordination and management meeting in June 2014. The World Health Organization, however, needed more time to review its list of candidates, and the election would therefore be postponed a second time.

The meeting rose at 4.25 p.m.